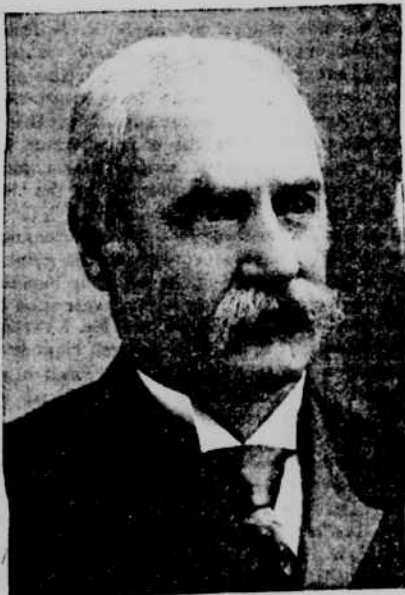


cons to the House is slim. The rule of the "survival of the fittest" applies fairly well, however, except in those States where the system of rotation prevails. Looking down from the newspaper gallery on Monday one will see about a dozen men who have been members of the House for fifteen or twenty years, but not all of them have seen consecutive service. Speaker Reed has entered on his twenty-first year, and, therefore, is a veteran, although he carries his fifty-eight years so lightly that to his friends he does not appear much older, except for his bald-



SENATOR NELSON W. ALDRICH OF RHODE ISLAND.

A leading member of the Committee on Finance and manager of the Dingley Tariff bill in its passage through the Senate.

ness, than he did when he distinguished himself as one of the minority members of the Potter Committee twenty years ago. Another change is noted in his personal appearance, however, and that is caused by the shaving of his mustache. It was never a heavy mustache, and perhaps Mr. Reed, who is a big man physically as well as otherwise, and with a keen sense of proportion, may have sacrificed it for that reason. Mr. Reed is one of the great speakers, both as a parliamentarian and in his self-command, and fairly measures up to the Clay and Blaine standards.

Maine has always been strong in the House of Representatives. That State has uniformly given credit to experience, and her statesmen at Washington have usually been of a superior grade. When Speaker Reed looks down from his seat on Monday he will face two of his colleagues who, like himself, are veteran members of the House. Mr. Dingley, most widely known on account of his services as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, has been a member of the House for sixteen years, and Mr. Boutelle, who is in his second term as chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, has been a member of the House since the beginning of the LIH Congress. It used to be said in the Union Army during the war that the men from the Pine Tree State were the tallest soldiers, and it was true that their measurement was considerably above the average. But Chairman Dingley is,



JOSEPH W. BAILEY, OF TEXAS.
Representing the Vth District and leader of the Democratic minority in the House.

physically speaking, a little man—not much bigger than the late Alexander H. Stevens or William Mahone—and yet he is a man of great mental and physical endurance. At the special session of Congress his daily toll averaged fifteen to sixteen hours, and it was toll of the most laborious and exacting sort; but he bore the burden with less apparent effort than other members of the committee, and came from it in a comparatively fresh condition. Mr. Dingley is not an orator, in the ordinary sense, but he has such a mastery of every subject he discusses that he always commands the attention and re-

spect of the House. Captain Boutelle, who derives his title from service in the Union Navy and also in the merchant marine, is a fine type of the American sailor, bluff and aggressive. You can discover all these and many other manly traits as you look down from the gallery, especially when the Captain is in action. He will not bear suppression, as Speaker Crisp was taught to realize in the LIH Congress.

Going from New-England to Illinois, one sees two other notable figures on the Republican side. The first is Mr. Cannon, the senior Representative in point of service from that State, and the second is Robert R. Hitt. The former, who is a North Carolinian by birth, as are so many of the older residents of the "Sucker" State, first came to Congress twenty-four years ago, and has been a member of the House of Representatives ever since, with the exception of one term, when he was defeated for re-election. For many years "Joe" has been a member of the Committee on Appropriations, and is now chairman of it, as he was in the LIst and LIVth Congresses. Somebody has written of him that he is "a Cannon of large bore," but he never "bores" the House in his speeches. He has one peculiarity, however, which once led him to grief—a habit of gesticulating with his left hand and keeping his right in his trousers pocket. One day Mr. Cannon, who is, or was, red-headed and naturally of an extremely mercurial temperament, was making one of his animated speeches with one foot in his chair and his left hand sawing the air. Suddenly S. S. Cox, that light skinner who had few equals on the Democratic side, attempted to interrupt the Illinois statesman, who gave a sharp retort, and Mr. Cox came back at him with a rejoinder somewhat

seat in the House was contested by Colonel Lowe, a Greenbacker, and was awarded to the latter by the Elections Committee. As was his right, General Wheeler made a speech in defence of his title. He had piled the top of his desk with big books, and in his excitement (he is a physically small man, like Governor Dingley) he climbed upon his chair. It was a revolving chair, and in the ardor of his discourse General Wheeler made a violent gesture, the chair whirled and he disappeared, his standing in the chair being less firm than his seat in the saddle.

One of the younger men elected to the House of Representatives from the South in recent years is Benton McMillin, of Tennessee, who always has a good seat on the Democratic side. He has been here sixteen years and is yet comparatively young, being only forty-two years old. He is also as red-headed and mercurial as Cannon, and they frequently lock horns in debate, especially since Bailey, of Texas, "downed" the Tennessee statesman in the Speakership caucus. It was one of the surprises that both parties have given to the country when Mr. McMillin was defeated. When anything is written about the House in late years the name of Mr. Reed invariably comes up. It did so one evening when Mr. McMillin was a candidate for Speaker in the LIH Congress. As many people may remember, there were some violent scenes in the LIst Congress, and they were not wholly confined to the proceedings in the House itself. Mr. McMillin was one of the minority members of the Committee on Rules, of which the majority was composed of Speaker Reed, Major McKinley and Mr. Cannon. Mr. McMillin's description, in brief, of one of these meetings, when the Election bill or some other

friends call him, has a spicy way about him, and he is always found on the alert.

Charles H. Grosvenor, of Ohio, is another of the Republican soldier members. One would hardly believe, seeing his amiable face and hearing his gentle voice, that he would give such sharp party thrusts as he does on occasion, or lend himself to statistical and historical work with so much care. But General Grosvenor has been raised in a region of fierce party conflict. Moreover, he has paid a great deal of attention to the history of Athens, Ohio,



SENATOR S. B. ELKINS OF WEST VIRGINIA.
Secretary of War in President Harrison's Administration.

where is situated the somewhat celebrated "Cover Skin" Library, of which General Thomas Ewing the elder, first Secretary of the Interior, was one of the founders. General Grosvenor's brief in favor of the priority of the Athens Public Library over that in Cincinnati is still remembered in Washington. Of course, his later achievements in the matter of political statistics, based upon figures found in "The Tribune," are fresh in everybody's mind.

Included in the Pennsylvania delegation in the House are several members of influence and promise. One of them is Galusha A. Grow, who was first elected to Congress as a Free Soil Democrat nearly half a century ago, and was afterward chosen Speaker. Those were stormy times in Congress, and the gentleman who sits beside one of the aisles on the Republican side had his share in all of them. He is still hale and vigorous, while with a half-dozen exceptions, all of his contemporaries have passed away.

Another Pennsylvania statesman who sits well down in front, but not far distant from ex-Speaker Grow, is John Dalzell, of Pittsburg, who was an infant when Mr. Grow was first elected to Congress. He is a comparatively young man, but he is a member of the two most important committees—Ways and Means and Appropriations. Mr. Dalzell is a man of great firmness and determination, qualities which are essential to the places that he holds on Committees of the House. Space would



GARRET A. HOBART.
Vice-President of the United States and President of the Senate.

like this: "If you will take your hand out of your pocket you cannot answer me, and you know it."

Robert R. Hitt, whose hair is growing very scanty, is not one of the older members of the House, but he has already made his mark—less by speechmaking in that body than by diplomacy in the Committee on Foreign Affairs, of which he is now chairman. His training for this part was of a practical sort. In his youth Mr. Hitt was a stenographer, and one of the rather few who were able at that day to report public speeches. He was the first man to report the speeches of Abraham Lincoln for publication. Between Speaker Reed and Mr. Hitt a warm personal friendship exists, and men who regard Mr. Reed—as many do—as being cold and cynical would be surprised to hear that when the Illinois statesman was believed to be on his deathbed a couple of years ago the Maine statesman made the journey from Portland to Washington to visit him. Probably Mr. Hitt's best work has been done as a member of the House of Representatives, although his career prior to that was an entirely creditable one.

To skip from the West to the South, one of the most picturesque figures on the Democratic side is General Joseph Wheeler, of Alabama. He is as active and nervous as he was when he was cutting the line of "Yankee" military communications during the war. The General holds the pen of a ready writer, and has been known to fill twenty pages of "The Congressional Record" at a single sitting. There was one time, however, when he extinguished himself. His

political measure was under consideration, was somewhat as follows:

"We Democrats were called in, and the Speaker said: 'Mac and Joe and I have concluded to perpetrate the following Republican outrage.' And then he would send the decision and give us time to prepare ourselves."

One of the political surprises at the beginning of this Congress was the nomination by the minority caucus of Joseph W. Bailey, of Texas, for Speaker of the House. When Mr. Bailey was elected to the House of Representatives some years ago he was one of the youngest two members of that body. Mr. Bailey affects good clothes, his linen is immaculate, but he does not wear a dress suit in public. Since he came to Congress Mr. Bailey has managed to achieve considerable reputation as what is called a constitutional lawyer, and, if he lives to be as old as ex-Senator Reagan, may outrank him in that capacity.

The soldiers of the Union in the House are well represented by David B. Henderson and William P. Hepburn, of Iowa. General Henderson, whose life has several times been threatened by wounds received in the war, shows the marks of suffering, but is still as sturdy as ever in disposition. He is of Scotch parentage, but came to the United States when a youth. General Henderson has had an "all-around service" in the House, where he is now chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He, as well as his colleague, Colonel Hepburn, is an orator of no mean rank. "Pete" Hepburn, as his intimate



SENATOR JUSTIN S. MORRILL OF VERMONT.
The oldest member of the Senate and Chairman of the Committee on Finance.

fail to tell the story of even one-half the representatives from Pennsylvania. Among them are General Bingham, of a Philadelphia district, whom all his friends call "Harry," and Alfred C. Harmer, of another Philadelphia district, both of whom have been here for many years.

But if it be difficult to pick out the Pennsylvania men, even in a congregation of three-hundred and fifty-seven statesmen, what shall be said of New-York? As the spectator looks down from the gallery, he sees Paine, Sherman, Wadsworth Cummings and thirty other states-

It would take a column of "The Tribune" simply to enumerate them.